

Listing and Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.(currently amended) A method of compensating for offset in a received signal, the signal being modified by a sequence of symbols, each symbol extending over T_s signal samples, ~~the method comprising the steps of:~~

- (a) dividing the received signal into frames;
- (b) dividing each frame into a plurality of N_b sub-frames, wherein each sub-frame overlaps an adjacent sub-frame;
- (c) forming N_b sequences of values, the values being derived from the corresponding sub-frame within each frame; and
- (d) taking said N_b sequences as successive estimates of a frame sequence correctly aligned ~~(to the sequence of symbols.~~

2.(currently amended) A ~~The method as claimed in~~ claim 1, wherein each frame is of predetermined length T_s .

3.(currently amended) A ~~The method as claimed in~~ claim 1, wherein there is an inter-frame overlap of an adjacent frame.

4. (cancelled)

5.(currently amended) A ~~The method as claimed in~~ claim 1, wherein N_b lies within the range 2 to 8.

6.(currently amended) A ~~The method as claimed in~~ claim 1, wherein the sequence of symbols comprises L_w symbols, the received signal being divided into L_F frames, wherein L_F is an integral integer multiple of L_w .

7.(currently amended) AThe method as ~~claimed in~~of claim 1, wherein said sequence of symbols comprises a sequence of values convolved with a window shaping function that has a band limited frequency behavior and ~~a~~is smoothed according to a smoothing factor s_f temporal behavior.

8. (cancelled).

9.(currently amended) AThe method as ~~claimed in~~of claim 1, wherein said sequence of symbols comprises a sequence of at least one of raised cosine functions or bi-phase functions.

10.(currently amended) AThe method as ~~claimed in~~of claim 1, wherein said offset is a time offset.

11.(currently amended) AThe method as ~~claimed in~~of claim 1, ~~the method further comprising processing each estimate as though it were the correctly aligned frame sequence, so as to~~ for determineing which estimate is ~~the~~ a best estimate.

12.(currently amended) AThe method as ~~claimed in~~of claim 11, wherein the best estimate is assumed to be ~~the~~ a first estimate that, when processed, exceeds one or more predetermined conditions; said processing of estimates stopping once the best estimate has been determined.

13.(currently amended) AThe method as ~~claimed in~~of claim ~~[[1]]~~12, ~~the method further comprising:~~

~~the step of~~ correlating each of said estimates with a reference corresponding to said sequence of symbols; and

taking the estimate with ~~the~~ a maximum correlation peak value as the best estimate.

14.(currently amended) A~~The~~ method as~~of~~ claim 11, wherein once a first best estimate has been determined for a first signal or portion of a signal, the method is repeated for a further received signal or portion of a signal, the estimates from said further signal being processed in an order dependent upon said first best estimate.

15.(currently amended) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer executable code for, when executed by a computer, performing
~~program arranged to perform the method as claimed in claim 1.~~

16. (cancelled)

17. (original) A method of making available for downloading a computer program as claimed in claim 15.

18.(currently amended) An apparatus arranged to compensate for offset in a received signal, the signal being modified by a sequence of symbols, each symbol extending over T_s signal samples, ~~the apparatus comprising:~~

a divider arranged to divide the received signal into frames;

a divider arranged to divide each frame into a plurality of N_b sub-frames,
wherein each sub-frame overlaps an adjacent sub-frame; and

a processor arranged to form N_b sequences of values, the values being derived from the corresponding sub-frame within each frame; and to take said N_b sequences as successive estimates of a frame sequence correctly aligned with the sequence of symbols.

19. (currently amended) A~~n~~~~The~~ apparatus ~~claimed in~~of claim 18, the apparatus further comprising a buffer arranged to store said N_b sequences.

20. (currently amended) A decoder arranged to compensate for offset in a received signal, the signal being modified by a sequence of symbols, each symbol extending over T_s signal samples, comprising:

a divider arranged to divide the received signal into frames;
a divider arranged to divide each frame into a plurality of N_b sub-frames,
wherein each sub-frame overlaps an adjacent sub-frame; and
a processor arranged to form N_b sequences of values, the values being
derived from the corresponding sub-frame within each frame; and to take said N_b
sequences as successive estimates of a frame sequence correctly aligned with the
sequence of symbols.
~~comprising the apparatus as claimed in claim 18.~~